



PRESS NOTICE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**CHESTER MAN SENTENCED TO 57 MONTHS
ON FIREARM AND AMMUNITION CHARGE**

COLUMBIA, South Carolina ---- GERALDO DEMETRIUS LAND, age 23, of Chester, South Carolina, was sentenced today to 57 months imprisonment, which will be followed by three (3) years supervised release. United States District Judge Cameron McGowan Currie imposed the sentence today after LAND's earlier guilty plea to the charge of being a felon in possession of a firearm and ammunition.

Evidence presented at the earlier guilty plea hearing established that on April 1, 2011, deputies with the Chester County Sheriff's Office were informed that LAND had a firearm concealed in his waistband while at People's Choice nightclub in Chester. Deputies apprehended LAND inside the crowded club and after a brief struggle recovered a fully loaded .380 caliber pistol inside his pants.

LAND was arrested on state charges and during transport to the jail that evening, LAND escaped twice, but was apprehended by the local officers.

LAND is prohibited under federal law from possessing a firearm and/or ammunition based upon his prior state convictions for possession with intent to distribute marijuana, possession of crack cocaine, possession of cocaine, resisting arrest, distribution of marijuana 2nd offense (2 counts), and distribution of crack cocaine.

The case was investigated by agents of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) and the Chester County Sheriff's Office, and was prosecuted as part of the joint federal, state and local Project CeaseFire initiative, which aggressively prosecutes firearm cases. Assistant United States Attorneys Stacey D. Haynes and Jean Popowski handled the prosecution of the case.

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